

Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge
2700 Suwannee Canal Road
Folkston, GA 31537
Phone: (912) 496-7836
Fax: (912) 496-7991
<http://www.fws.gov/okefenokee>

News Release



For Immediate Release

Contact: Art Webster (912) 496-7366 ext. 233

Date: September 15, 2011

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING Banks Lake National Wildlife Refuge 2011 – 2012 Lake Level Drawdown

The public is invited to attend a meeting to discuss the proposed plan to temporarily draw down the water level of Banks Lake to control the surface weed mat and improve sport fishing opportunities. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 6, 2011 from 6-7 p.m., at the Lakeland City Hall located at 122 S. Valdosta Road.

This meeting will provide information and answer questions on the proposed drawdown process. Topics of discussion will include but not be limited to: fish sample surveys and evaluation of weed mat density; the proposed timeline for closure and re-opening of the refuge to recreational activities; fishing and general entry restrictions during the drawdown, etc.

For additional information or to comment on this or other refuge programs please contact: Art Webster, Supervisory Refuge Ranger, Banks Lake National Wildlife Refuge, 2700 Suwannee Canal, Folkston, Ga. 31537, call (912) 496-7366 X 233, or e-mail arthur_webster@fws.gov.

XXX